

The Role of Dumas in the Administration System of the Fergana Valley's Cities

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ANNOTATION

This article, relying on the sources, clarifies the impact of political processes in the cities of Fergana Valley on the city administration in 1917. Moreover, the issues of establishment of Soviet government in the cities of Fergana Valley, leading political changes that took place in the cities, the role of Dumas in cities' administration and the participation of local representatives in these processes are also discussed. The article concludes that the cities of the Fergana Valley in 1917 were among the political centers of Turkestan.

Keywords: The February revolution, the Duma of the city, national organizations, Shurai-Islamiya, management organizations, transformation processes, Turkestan Committee, Councils of workers-peasants and soldiers, County-city Executive bodies, socio-economic problems.

INTRODUCTION

The cities of the Fergana Valley had a very deep roots in history, and its area was considered to be one of the earliest civilization centers in Central Asia. The vivid evidence of these facts are the celebration of the 2000th anniversary of Margilan city in 2007 [1] and the monuments of ancient urban culture in Akhsikent [2]. In the history of our country, the primeval development of the cities of the Fergana Valley was exceptionally diverse and played a special role in the development of the region.

Today, when cities are expanding and growing rapidly, it is important to study the prospects and historical features of modern urban culture. To this end, the world's leading research centers pay special attention to the problems of urban history and development, including the development of medium and small and satellite cities to relieve pressure in large megacities, to identify their historical features. In turn, the study of these problems in the territory of Uzbekistan is of great importance and remains one of the most pressing issues on the agenda. Identifying and understanding their historical features in urban development planning emphasizes the need for this research.

During the years of independence, a new stage in the development of Uzbek cities has begun. As part of socio-economic reforms, special attention was paid to the development of cities. For the first time in Uzbekistan, the "Urban Development Code" was adopted, and construction plans were developed for almost every major city. In determining the development prospects of cities, an in-depth study of their past, the restoration of development traditions, the identification of the causes and consequences of existing problems has become an important task not only scientifically but also practically. At the same time, the breakdown of centuries-old historical traditions in 1917–1924, which left a special mark on the history of the cities of Uzbekistan, the occurrence of deurbanization processes create the need to study the causes of this problem and the factors that contributed to it.

The article analyzes the active participation of local residents in governing the economy and life of the city through the Dumas formed in all major cities of the Fergana Valley as a result of the February Revolution of 1917 and as a result of the October revolution, the Dumas were disbanded, the city's income and economy were completely subordinated to the party, and local residents were removed from the city administration.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The literature on the research topic can be divided into three groups in terms of periodic and conceptual approach:

1. Literature of the Soviet period;
2. Research conducted during the years of independence;
3. Foreign publications.

Research in Soviet historiography in the first half of the 1920s provided accurate information about the socio-economic situation and political processes in the cities of Turkestan, including the cities of the Fergana Valley. However, by the end of the 1920s and the beginning of the 1930s, under strict censorship, the essence of many processes began to be shed light on one side, within the framework of the dominant ideology. (Dervish. The Problem of Fergana // "Military Thought". Book. - No. 2. - Tashkent, 1921. - p.108–118; Safarov G.I. Colonial revolution / Experience of Turkestan. - Moscow, 1921. – 184p; Ryskulov T. Revolution and the indigenous population of Turkestan. (Collection of articles, reports, speeches and abstracts). Part 1. 1917-1919 - Tashkent: Uzbekgosizdat, 1925. - 218 p.)

Scientific researches published during the years of independence covered the political processes of 1917–1918, the formation and activity of national-political organizations, the abolition of Turkestan Autonomy in Kokand, demographic processes for the first time objectively and comprehensively clarified on the basis of primary sources (R. Abdullaev, National Political Organizations of Turkestan in 1917-1918. Author. Diss. Doct. Historical Sciences. - Tashkent, 1998. - 62 p.)

Foreign historiography focuses on the political struggles in the cities of the Fergana Valley, in particular, the democratic government established in Kokand - the Turkestan Autonomy and the massacres associated with its abolition (Baymirza Hayit. Turkestan im XX Jahrhundert. - Darmstadt. 1956. - pp. 48-214. . Baymirza Hayit. Turkestan zwischen Russland und China. - Amsterdam. 1971. - 414 p; Caroe, Olaf. Soviet Empire: The Turks of Central Asia and Stalinism. New York: St.Martin's Press, 1954; Alexander G. Park. Bolshevism in Turkistan, 1917-1927. New York: Columbia University. Press, 1957; Richard Edgar Pipes. The formation of the Soviet Union: Communism and Nationalism, 1917–1923 / Cambridge, Mass. Harward University Press, 1957; Fritz Willfort'un - Turkestan Diary Six years in Central Asia. Vienna, 1930.).

The analysis of research on the subject suggests that the role of city dumas in the management of cities in the Fergana Valley has not yet been studied as a subject of special research [29].

The article uses the principles of history and methods of comparative, problem, dynamic analysis.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In the early XX century, under the influence of the February Revolution of 1917 in Russia, rapid political changes began in the Turkestan region. With the overthrow of the monarchy in Russia and the introduction of the Provisional Government, its Turkestan branch, the Turkestan Committee of the Provisional Government of Turkestan, was established in the country, and its governing bodies began to take shape in Turkestan[3].

Modifications also appeared in the city management. The order of the Provisional Government on the establishment of city Dumas was issued on March 8, 1917. According to this document, it was marked that in all cities, 12-15 representatives of landowners must be elected to the city Dumas, the Dumas must take over all sectors of the economy, and half of the Duma members must be Russian-speaking citizens. Moreover, county-city executive committees were established in county centers. On March 14, 1917, elections were held for the Andijan county-city executive committee. [4] According to the results of the elections for the Andijan county-city of workers, peasants and soldiers' council, Maslov, F.T. Chaykin, V.A. Tursunkhodjaev, Braizgalov, Rozaliev, and Sumarokov were elected [5].

On June 16, 1917, a telegram was sent from Petrograd to the Turkestan Committee of the Provisional Government "On the Issue of Urban Self-Government Bodies in Turkestan." The following instructions were enjoined in the telegram that:

- During the process of conducting elections to the City Duma by the Provisional Government, to follow "Temporary Rules of Conducting Elections" approved by the Ministry of Internal Affairs on May 3, 1917;
- To determine the number of representatives of the City Duma in the cities of Turkestan;
- To inform the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Military Affairs about changes in the requirements for municipal organizations relying on native conditions;
- To acquaint the population of Turkestan with the provisions of the Charter of the City;
- To set up local election committees under the city administrations to conduct elections;
- To give instructions to send information by telegraph to the Provisional Government on the preparations for the elections in the cities.

The Turkestan Committee of the Provisional Government approved a decree to determine the procedure for holding elections to the City Dumas, to hold elections on time, and to strictly abide by the law adopted by the Turkestan Committee on April 15, 1917. According to the decree of the Turkestan Committee on July 5, 1917, separate local committees were formed to determine the list of voters [6]. The decree defined the procedure for holding elections in Syrdarya, Samarkand, Fergana, Behind-Caspian regions and the Russian-populated areas of the Bukhara Emirate and the number of voters. It also called for an immediate start to the organization of elections, the election of City Dumas until January 1, 1919.

In the summer of 1917, unexpected results were observed in the local elections in the cities of Turkestan. For example, 76 of the 112 people elected to the Tashkent City Duma were local people. In the elections to the Andijan Duma, the native representatives of "Shurai Islamiya" ("The Islamic Council") won 77 seats, the societies "Hurriyet" ("The Independence") and "Ma'rifat" ("The Enlightenment") won 3 seats, the party "Ittifak" ("The Union") won 1 seat, the Bolsheviks won 11 seats and the Jews won 2 seats [7].

Thus, for the first time since the conquest of Turkestan by the Russian Empire, the local Muslim people won the elections to the city and local authorities. By September, three political forces in the country had suddenly begun to claim dominance. These were: the administration of the Provisional Government in the country, the Soviet of Workers and Soldiers with the Armed Forces, the representatives of the pan-Muslim people who had seized power in local offices.

Representatives of "Shurai Islamiya" ("The Islamic Council"), "Muftahil-maorif" ("The Open Education"), "Havaskaron-maorif" ("The Amateur Education") and other organizations took part in the congress of Muslim district and city organizations, which began on July 14, 1917 in Andijan.[8] The issue of participation in the elections to the City Duma played an important role in the Congress.[9]

The congressional resolution stressed the importance of these elections and the need for Muslims to participate in them. Another hotly debated issue was the participation of Muslim women in elections [10]. Electoral laws required their direct participation in elections, but their implementation was very complicated due to the traditional lifestyle of Muslim women. In addition, part of the population would be negative about women's participation in social life.

Reorganization of self-government bodies in the cities of Fergana region, city Dumas and the news of the elections were greeted with great interest and kindness by the residents of the cities of the region.

In the elections to the City Duma of Margilan, on August 27, 1917, the district court found the complaint of the election commission that the election was marred by gross errors and violated the law and annulled the election results. The verdict came into force on October 9 that year [11]. In the city of Old Margilan, on October 3, 1917, under the supervision of the city commissar, a new committee was formed to hold re-elections to the city Duma with the following composition:

- 3 representatives from the society "Shurai Islamiya" ("The Islamic Council");
- 3 representatives from the society "Turk Adami Markaziyat";
- 4 representatives from the Muslim Workers' Party;
- 3 representatives from the student society;
- 3 representatives from the Public Security Committee;
- 1 representative from the city homeowners;
- 1 representative from the Jewish community;
- 1 representative from the Russian community;

In total, the new Committee consisted of 19 members, and Mulla Karabek Botirbekov was elected as the chairman by secret ballot[12].

On the night of October 6-7, 1917, clashes broke out between local residents during the pre-election campaign in Kokand. As a result, five members of the Muslim population were killed[13]. The pre-election campaign was carried out with great interest and high activity of all segments of the population and representatives of various organizations in the city. Along with the Russian population, the local people was also very interested in the election process. According to the results of the elections, the city administration has been established in Kokand. The Kokand District Commissioner was tasked with managing the city's economy, liaising with the city administration, and handing over all the city's property, treasury, equipment, and working documents to the city administration [14].

On October 14, 1917, the first meeting of the City Duma was held at the Kokand public meeting. At the meeting, A. V. Nikolaenko read out the oath of allegiance to the members of the City Duma to perform their duties conscientiously. The meeting was attended by 52 members of the City Duma. In the meeting the chairman of the Kokand City Duma, the mayor and members of the city administration were elected. Yurevsky was appointed as a chairman of the City Duma, and his assistant was O. Mahmudov, E.O.Gurwich was appointed as a mayor on behalf of a group of Muslim. It was decided to keep the documents of the Duma meeting in two languages: Russian and Uzbek.

On October 1917, elections to the City Duma were held in Namangan [17]. A total of 7 people from the new Russian-speaking part of the city were elected to the Namangan City Duma, while a total of 60 people were elected from the old part of the city where the local population lives [16]. On October 28, 1917, the Namangan City Duma began its work. Two days later, the Namangan city administration was established. The chairman of the newly formed City Duma was notary M.V. Pokrovsky, and E.V. Obonintsky, B.P. Yudin, A. Tashbalabaev, Sh. Diyaev, M. The Kadyrovs were elected as the members of administration [18]. In 1917, the City Duma was formed in Chust. The Duma consisted of 34 members, including local wealthy officials[19].

At a special meeting of the Kokand City Duma on November 5, 1917, the following issues were discussed:

- 1) the establishment of a police unit in the city of Kokand;
- 2) installation of night lighting system in the old city;
- 3) determination of duties of the mayor and his deputy, members of city administration;
- 4) analysis of the city's revenues and expenditures for 1917;
- 5) inclusion of suburban areas in the city structure;
- 6) consideration of complaints on elections to the City Duma;
- 7) Election of a representative of the Duma to the Kokand Food Committee [20].

At a regular meeting of the Kokand City Duma on November 11, 1917, issues such as sending 5 representatives to Tashkent to participate in the Congress of Regional Cities, taxing entertainment venues and events, allocating funds to the Kokand city orphanage were considered [21].

On November 16, 1917, the Old Margilan City Commissioner A.U. Khudoyorkhanov informed the Fergana Regional Commissioner that preparations were being made for the elections to the City Duma of the Special Committee headed by him by Report No. 924 [22].

On November 19, 1917, a council of workers' and soldiers' deputies from the Russian-speaking population was established in Namangan. At the meeting of the newly elected deputies, a new composition of the executive committee was elected. None of the local nationalities were included in the leadership positions of the executive committees. Also, among its members were only three or four illiterate workers from the local nationalities. They did not participate in the activities of the executive committee at all.

Elections to the City Duma were held on February 18, 1918 in Old Margilan. Members of the 1st list of candidates won the election with 12,471 votes. The first meeting of the City Duma was held on February 26 in the building of the Office of the Special Committee. After members of the City Duma took the solemn oath, due to the illness of secretary Nasibyants' illness, the election of members to the city council was postponed to another day. On March 14, the election of members of the board was held in the Old Margilan City Duma and Saidakhmadkhoja Giyoskhodjaev was elected as the mayor, Muhammad Ibrahim Qori Sarimsakov as his deputy, Abdulla Sufi Khodjaev, Raimjon Akhmat Karvanov and Rakhmat Ali Abdurahmanov as members of the board, Pavel Nasibyants as the secretary of the city administration was elected[26].

A special commission was set up by the City Duma to take over the economic, financial and other property of the city. General, financial, economic and food departments were established under the city administration. A number of commissions were set up with the participation of members of the City Duma: medical-sanitary, trade-industrial, public education and other commissions. Mayor Saidakhmadkhoja Giyoskhodjaev and board member Mulla Raimjon Karvonov would lead all commissions. The office immediately began to hire new employees, to buy the necessary items. To solve the problem of providing food to the population of the city, the city administration sent its representatives to different provinces to buy bread and provided them with the necessary funds and relevant documents. Before the bakery arrived, it was decided to open free kitchens for 200 hungry people in the city. At the initiative of the Duma, the city's self-sufficient citizens allocated voluntary funds to organize free kitchens and ensure the operation of kitchens. The city administration announced that it would be open, informing the public about each of its activities. It was announced that the office would receive citizens from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm [27].

The Margilan City Duma decided to increase the amount of taxes to improve the economic situation in the city in the current difficult economic situation, due to the devaluation of money. For example, a tax of 2 rubles for a box of silk, 10 rubles for 1 horse-drawn carriage, 25 rubles for 2 horse-drawn carriages, and 50 rubles for 3 horse-drawn carriages [28]. Taxes on imported and exported goods also increased. Despite the existing economic and political difficulties, the city administration, which was mainly composed of locals, worked hard to fulfill such a difficult and responsible task as managing the city's economy. Every day, the area around the City Duma building was crowded with citizens who came to the Duma building with various problems, as representatives of the city asked the Dumakhons (Old Margilan residents sometimes called members of the City Duma - dissident) to help solve problems in all spheres of life. If the city government said it could not solve some problems or had no right to intervene in the matter, local residents were strongly offended by the board members.

The above data showed that the Dumas in the cities of the Fergana Valley were actively involved in solving economic and social problems in the cities, and that the local population had great confidence in the city Dumas.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, in February-November 1917, conflicting political processes took place in the country. Under the influence of the February Revolution of 1917, the political process in Turkestan, especially in the cities of the Fergana Valley, became more active, branches of national organizations and societies were formed throughout the country, and Dumas were established in the city administration. As a result of the elections of the summer of 1917, representatives of the local population in cities such as Kokand and Andijan were elected to the Duma. Local political organizations were formed in the cities, and their members, such as large investors, local entrepreneurs, and progressives, took an active part in the political process. Representatives of the local population began to take an active part in the city administration.

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